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JASPER COURIER.



Democratic State Ticket.

For Secretary of State,
DANIEL McCLELLAN, of Morgan.
Auditor of State,
JOHN W. DODD, of Grant.
Treasurer of State,
NATH'L F. CUNNINGHAM, of Vigo.
Superintendent of Public Instruction,
SAMUEL L. RUGG, of Allen.
Attorney General,
JOS. E. McDONALD, of Montgomery.
Supreme Judges,
SAMUEL E. PERKINS, of Marion.
ANDREW DAVISON, of Decatur.
JAMES M. HANNA, of Vigo.
JAMES I. WORDEN, of Whitley.

JASPER:

FRIDAY, : : : MARCH 15, 1858

A Word at the Start.

The importance of a newspaper in Dubois county is too obvious to require an elaborate argument. The rich and fertile lands of this county, teeming with nature's most valuable productions; the vast array of laborious and successful agriculturists spread over its entire surface; the immense beds of coal and other valuable mineral deposits treasured up beneath its surface, entitle it to a high place among the best counties of our rich and prosperous State. The agricultural interests of Dubois are annually assuming more importance; its population is rapidly increasing; its political influence is sensibly advancing; and consequently it is of the highest importance that these interests, and the general wants of our citizens, should be kept prominently and constantly before the country. To accomplish this end no means that can be devised will prove so effectual as the permanent establishment of a good weekly newspaper.

Politically, the Courier will steadily advocate the principles and policy peculiar to the Democratic party. But as in the present state of political controversy, it requires optics as sharp as those of Butler's hero to distinguish the genuine from the counterfeit, the real from the assumed, it may not be unnecessary to state, briefly, what we believe a real Democrat to be, and what the principles by which he is governed. The real Democrats, to whom we claim adherence, may be described as those who still abide by the original principles of Democracy, who still retain the inspiration of the Jefferson and Jackson school, who as Christian freemen, cling to living ideas of justice, of equal rights, and of progress, and who refuse to follow the turbulent crowd in a pell-mell abandonment of themselves to the seductions of those successive squads of speculating politicians that infest periodically our land. He discards all identity with those factions and cliques who care nothing for truth or righteousness, while they have a ravenous appetite for distinction and provender, and whose art of administration fluctuates between the meanness of low trickery and the blustering arrogance of bullyism. The real democrat is not such merely because the democrats are generally in the ascendant, but because the genuine democracy evinces a steady continuance in integrity, turns a deaf ear to the charmings of the addors of office, and manifests an eagerness to consult, amid all the shiftings of policy, the fresh impulses of the honest young heart of the nation.

Such is the democracy and such the principles which we profess to advocate. Those great principles of sound government and national policy, established and expounded by those great and accomplished statesmen, who now sleep in honorable graves, we shall

ever, as far as the means in our power will admit, be proud to maintain and disseminate.

The Courier is not intended exclusively for any class of readers, or for any kind of reading. In addition to matters of local interest, and the current news of the day, it is the design of the publishers to bring before their readers from week to week, speeches and addresses of official or distinguished men upon topics of universal interest and importance; critical notices of the current publications of the day; notices of the progress and fruits of antiquarian research, of scientific discoveries, of mechanical inventions, of incidents of travel and exploration, and generally of all the events in science, literature and art, in which the people at large have any interest. Constant and special regard will be had to such articles as relate to the economy of social and domestic life, or tend to promote in any way the education, advancement and well-being of those who are engaged in any department of productive activity.

We have no doubt that by a careful, industrious and intelligent use of the appliances at our command, we can present a weekly paper which no one who has the slightest relish for miscellaneous reading, or the slightest desire to keep himself informed of the progress of his own age, and section of country, would willingly be without. And we intend to publish it at so low a rate, (\$1.50 in advance, \$2 within six months,) and to give it a value so much beyond its price, as will make it a welcome visitor to the family circle, the counting room and the shop.

British Quarterly Reviews.

We invite the attention of our readers to the Prospectus of the British Reviews and Blackwood's Monthly in another column of our paper. The reading matter contained in these periodicals is emphatically solid and instructive. Every lover of a pure and sound literature will find in them much that is rich and invaluable. In delineating nature, society, manners, government or religion, they furnish an unusual variety of instruction, attended with an unusual amount of interest. They are the united productions of the master minds of the age. The chaste and elevated qualities of their style, together with the solid materials of thought and wisdom contained in their pages, entitle them to the highest place in the literature of our language. While light, unhealthy, pernicious productions without number, are now seen coming up all over the land, like the locusts of Egypt bourn by a mighty east wind, it is obviously the duty of all who have any regard for the moral health and intellectual vigor of our country, to aid by every means in their power, the general circulation and popularity of such periodicals as have a direct tendency to feed the people with wisdom and knowledge.

ARTHUR'S HOME MAGAZINE.—The prospectus of this sterling monthly will be found in another column. The pure and lofty moral tone of this magazine, in connection with its decided practical aim and tendency, render it one of the most desirable publications of the day. In literary merit, its articles are of a highly intellectual order—second to none of our first class magazines, and far superior to the "namby pamby" love sick effusions that distinguish a large portion of our monthly, as well as weekly publications. Its perusal cannot but be attended with pleasure and profit to its numerous readers.

—We this week send our paper to several who are not subscribers, and should they desire it we would be glad to enter their names on our books; for particulars, see terms on first page.

Music hath Charms.

Some few weeks ago an association was formed in this place for the purpose of mutual improvement in sacred music. It is now in successful operation. The members of this association meet weekly at the house of our esteemed fellow citizen, Dr. Welman. As leader, the services of Esq. Newcomb have been secured—a gentleman well fitted for such a position, both from his extensive experience and liberal attainments in the "art divine." The community, judging from the number and character of those who attend these weekly meetings, seem to take quite an interest in this object. Many of the fairest and best of our ladies lend it the charm of their presence and aid. Each of the learned professions, we observe, has its representatives in attendance, from the undeveloped attorney up to him who ministers at the altar. It is gratifying to witness the interest taken in this object. Singing is obviously one of the most pleasing and profitable of exercises. As a powerful agent in promoting the physical, social and religious well being of the human family, singing is justly entitled to our warmest regard. In every age men of the soundest learning, and possessed of the profoundest knowledge of human nature, in all its leading departments, have advocated in terms of greatest earnestness the claims of vocal music.

Dr. Rush gives it as his opinion—"That singing by young ladies, whom the customs of society debar from many other kinds of salutary exercise, should be cultivated not only as an accomplishment, but as a means of preserving health." He says, that the "fact has suggested itself to him by his profession—that the exercise of the organs of the breast, by singing, contributes very much to defend them from the diseases to which the climate and other causes expose them. The Germans are seldom afflicted with consumption, nor have I ever known more than one instance of spitting of blood amongst them. This I believe is, in part, occasioned by the strength which their lungs acquire by exercising them frequently in vocal music, which constitutes an essential branch of their education."

Its influence in enlivening and properly directing the soul's best affections, is not less worthy our attention. One of the most powerful minds that earth has ever known—who has left the imprint of his colossal intellect and elevated moral nature deeply engraven on the page of human history, says: "If any man despise music I am displeased with him. Next to theology I give place to music; for thereby all anger is forgotten, the devil is driven away, and melancholy and many tribulations and evil thoughts are expelled."

In relation to the moral power of music, and its marked adaptation to the constitution of man, we cannot better express our views than in the language of the distinguished Dr. Chalmers—a writer deeply acquainted with man's nature. He says: "The power and expressiveness of music may well be regarded as a most beautiful adaptation of external nature to the moral constitution of man; for what can be more adapted to his moral constitution than that which is helpful, as music eminently is, to his moral culture? Its sweetest sounds are those of kind affection—its sublimest sounds are those most expressive of moral heroism, or most fitted to solemnize the devotion of the heart, and prompt the aspirations and resolves of exalted piety."

—Every county in the State should support at least one paper—the citizens of each are able to do it, and it matters not what its politics are, they should support it. There is no telling the advantage a paper is to a community.—American Eagle, Paoli.

Very well said, brother Comingore, and true, every word of it, as we hope the residents of Dubois will realize.

[Correspondence of the Jasper Courier.]
Rockport, March 10, 1858

MR. EDITOR:—All hail to you in the new position in which you find yourselves placed. Long may you and the Courier live and flourish to enlighten our benighted minds. Permit me through the columns of your paper to congratulate the Jasperites on the acquisition to their number that Rockport has lately furnished. Though not great in number, still in moral and intellectual power they will certainly count a few. But that is all right, for quite a number of Rockport's best citizens formerly hailed from Jasper. Intermixed, then, as the inhabitants of the two places are, they cannot but feel an interest in each other's welfare and prosperity. Notwithstanding the hard times, and consequent pressure in money affairs, the citizens here seem determined to go ahead. A thousand dollar job, of gutting and grading Main street, is now under way; and a fine row of business houses are just on the point of completion. New faces are seen on the streets every day, showing that strangers have already begun to notice our city as a desirable place for business, or to make a home.

Some few weeks since the Ministerial Association of Rockport District closed its labors here, and among other important business transacted and discussed, was the proposal to establish here for Southern Indiana a first class Seminary, which meeting with a hearty endorsement from the citizens of the place, the plans were laid, and stock taken to the amount of some ten or twelve thousand dollars. Thus there can scarcely be a doubt that, at no distant day, Rockport will boast of first class educational facilities.

The public mind has been in rather an inert state during most of the winter. This state of affairs may, however, in a great measure be attributed to the tenacity and depth of the mud, which has a well known tendency to encumber the understanding. Our prospects are rather more cheering at present. Business seems to move on much more briskly, and the condition of our streets has greatly improved. The fairer portion of our population now move round with freedom and ease, and for the last few days our streets have presented an unusually lively and interesting appearance. The ladies, judging from the number promenading our side-walks, show a marked tendency to make up for their winter's seclusion. It is perfectly exhilarating to see so many of the "dear critters" bustling about in their capacious surroundings! Altogether, Rockport is getting to be quite a place. Our people are daily becoming wiser, our merchants and business men more wealthy and enterprising, our youth more intelligent and amiable, and our ladies, if possible, more enchanting, beautiful and good. But enough for the present. Again wishing you abundant success, I remain Yours, A.

Bible Class.

A very agreeable and highly instructive Bible Class has for some time been held in this place, on every Tuesday evening, at the house of Rev. Mr. Strain. The method adopted by Mr. Strain in directing the exercises of this class, proves highly satisfactory to the various persons composing it. On the part of the greater number who attend, it is pleasing to observe the marked interest uniformly taken in the various subjects brought before them on each recurring week. They evidently regard it as not only the most profitable but decidedly the most agreeably spent evening of the week. By having their attention directed to the elevating precepts of the Divine Records—the wonderful acts of the faithful in past generations, the glowingly eloquent strains of Apostles and Prophets, and especially to the high and holy example of Him who went about continually doing good, they feel that the heart is made better, while at the same time the intellect is strengthened and the soul elevated. They make the discovery that after all there is in that sacred though much neglected book, something quite as wonderful as the "Reckless and daring exploits of fearless Fred," as mysterious and heart-rending as the "Mysteries and miseries of Poodledom," as thrilling as "The startling disclosures of Sneakem, the never to be outwitted policeman," and something quite as tender and pathetic as the "Touching verses of the exquisite poet Fitzhuddle."

—If you can say no good say no ill of your neighbors.

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March 19, 1858.

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